

11-15-2018

2018 Election: North Omaha Voted Like Crazy!!

Preston Love Jr.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/blackstudfacpub>

 Part of the [African American Studies Commons](#)

Black Votes Matter
UNO Adjunct Professor, Preston Love Jr.
Prestonlovejr.com

Black Lives, Black Poverty and Black Votes Matter

2018 Election: North Omaha Voted Like Crazy!!

After years of low voting numbers in post 2008 (Obama era), North Omaha voters are fully awake and taking care of business. Years of pounding the streets, Forums, Town Halls, Voter Registration and Education efforts, our first North Omaha Political Convention, finally a commitment of staff and money by the Nebraska Democratic Party, new fresh activism by new and upcoming political leadership like Precious McKesson, Barry Thomas, Kimara Snipes, NOISE and many others, added to the long term work of Black Votes Matter and even the presidency of Donald Trump, North Omaha has gotten the point, that our vote is critical for our own self survival and interest.

We saw some glimmer of light in 2017, where North Omaha voted well during the Mayoral race. But in this past election we took care of business. We need to understand that once again North Omaha is a voter force that has to be reckoned with. Congratulations North Omaha, congratulations, celebrate your community victory.

Let's review the numbers:

1. We broke records for voting during a mid-term election. 2018 we voted at 40%. In the 2014 midterm we voted slightly under 30%. We increased our voting by 10%, Wow!!
2. **Over 14,000** North Omaha voted November 6th. Compare that to these facts. In 2014 during that mid-term there were 9,300 north Omaha voters, in the 2017 Mayoral election we had 8,500 North Omaha voters, in 2016, a Presidential year, we had 11,700 votes.

Congratulations for North Omaha's role in passing Nebraska Medicaid Expansion. This vote will have massive positive effects for health care for the poor in North Omaha.

We had additional victories. Spencer Danner and Michael Hughes both ran excellent races, and both made history. Danner as the top African American vote getter in Nebraska history (in a statewide race) and Hughes for his great and historical race to be the first Black Sherriff in Douglas County. Celebrate them. They are just beginning.

Additionally, the Black Votes Matter (BVM) slate endorsed many candidates judged to be good for North Omaha. North Omaha helped them get elected!! Even while not victorious, I commend Mina Davis (state senate), Jane Raybould (US Senate), Bob Krist (Governor) for respecting and running in North Omaha. Kara Eastman ran a great race and nearly won the CD2 seat, in spite of the gerrymandered congressional district. North Omaha did its job, but could not overcome the Sarpy county vote.

I congratulate winners Marque Snow (OPS), Kimara Snipes (OPS), Shavonna Holman (OPS), Jane Skinner (Auditor), Diane Battiato (Register of Deeds), Debra Neary (State Bd. of Education), Barbara Weitz and Elizabeth O'Connor (Regents), Fred Conley (NRD) and Eric Williams (OPPD).

Shout out too many for their hard work in making this a significant election for North Omaha. Intense door knocking and phone banking by Heartland Workers Center (HWC), Nebraska Democratic Party North Omaha Office and the Kara Eastman North Omaha Office. BVM Concert for Change outside event, 101.3 airing a weekly election segment on the morning show, several candidate forums conducted by Black Men United, BVM, League of Women Voters, NOISE and the NDP Black Caucus, leadership and messaging by our north Omaha Clergy

On Election Day, Ms McKesson organized successful street corner visibility throughout North Omaha; BVM provided scores of rides to the polls, fielded a vast amount of voter questions and issues.

North Omaha celebrate your victories!!